

## **News Release**

Release No. 06-04 Contact: Carol Weart, Public Affairs

\_\_\_\_\_ (843) 329-8174

For Release: Immediate Carol.S.Weart@sac.usace.army.mil

## U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to Christen New Survey Boat

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CHARLESTON, S.C. -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District will christen their new survey boat, *The Evans* on August 4, 2006 at Brittlebank Park at 9:00 a.m. on the public pier. The public is invited to attend.

The Evans will become the Corps' workhorse for conducting hydrographic surveys in Charleston, Georgetown and Port Royal harbors, and other navigable waters throughout the Charleston District. Typically, the vessel will be in operation approximately 200 days per year. During the lifetime of this survey vessel, it will be involved in hundreds of surveys collecting data for channel maintenance, periodic inspections, Environmental Management Program projects, and regulatory inspections of harbors and waterways.

The vessel was built by SeaArk Marine, Inc. of Monticello, Arkansas, and cost approximately \$500,000 to build. It is assigned to the Navigation Survey Branch of the Charleston District. The Evans is 42 feet long with a draft of four feet and is powered by twin 460- horsepower Cummins diesels, all electronically controlled.

The vessel is one of the most modern, unique and sophisticated hydro-survey equipped boats in the country. The vessel has a modern fathometer and is equipped with a GPS tracking system. The vessel is also capable of performing real time tide data information gathering.

The vessel is being named in honor of John "Jack" Cecil Evans, a former Corps employee and boat Captain, who was often referred to as "Captain Jack". The public is welcome to tour the vessel following the ceremony.